

total quantity of different types of iron ware including stainless steel utensils exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years is given below.

Year	Quantity in Kg. (F.E. equivalent in Rupees Crores)	
	Quantity	Value
1993-94	12063597	128.37
1994-95	14597855	162.61
1995-96	19595714	244.61
1996-97 (April-Feb.)	N.A.	275.41

Source : EEPC/DGCI&S

(b) The major markets for export of iron ware including Stainless utensils are Saudi Arabia, U.K., USA, Canada, Equador, Chile, Japan, Panama, UAE.

(c) Promotion of exports has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures taken to boost exports of engineering goods including Iron & Steel Wares consist of various incentives under the Export-Import Policy like Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licence, Duty Drawback Scheme, exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act and assistance from Market Development Fund. In addition, the Government through Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) has drawn up various promotional activities such as Buyer-Seller Meets, participation in trade fairs & exhibitions, setting up of information booths at International fairs, sending industry delegations to the thrust countries etc. to boost exports of goods from the engineering sector including steel wares.

Rate of Export Market Assistance for Jute Yarn

6576. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have substantially reduced the rate of export market assistance under its revised scheme for jute yarn;

(b) if so, whether the prospects of jute yarn exports from India are likely, to be jeopardised as the net assistance to Indian exporters is likely to be reduced to 1.5 per cent as compared to 10% available to its competitors in Bangladesh; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the competitiveness of Indian jute yarn exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (c) According to the modified Export Market Assistance (EMA) Scheme applicable w.e.f. 1.4.1997 the rates of EMA on export of various items have been fixed after taking into consideration various relevant factors. In the case of export of yarn the rate of assistance has been reduced from 10% to 5%. In addition to EMA, there are other export promotional measures which are undertaken to promote the export of various jute products including jute yarn. These inter alia include participation with trade participants in international fairs, organising Buyer-Seller Meets, Workshops, Sponsoring overseas delegations-Markets Exploratory Missions etc. in order to generate demand, create awareness and explore new markets.

Visit of D.D.G., W.T.O.

6577. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Deputy Director General of World Trade Organisation during his visit to New Delhi had indicated that India would have to take a further leap in liberalisation of economy to realise its objective of 7% growth in GDP in the coming years;

(b) if so, the steps towards further liberalisation of economy were suggested by him; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir. This was mentioned by Mr. Chulsu Kim, Deputy Director General, World Trade Organisation during his address in New Delhi at the Asia Society's 8th Annual Corporate Conference in March, 1997.

(b) The steps suggested, inter-alia, were further liberalisation of foreign investment regime and further opening of trade regimes by elimination of quantitative restrictions in the consumer goods sectors.

(c) Foreign Direct Investment policy is reviewed from time to time with a view to boost foreign direct investment into the country and to make it more dynamic and investor friendly.

As regards elimination of quantitative restrictions, the WTO Committee on Balance of Payments Restrictions will